

Exhibit No. B

Des Plaines

# JOURNAL

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INDEPENDENT JOURNAL TOPICS

• School leaders prioritizing data collected at meetings... See pg 5A

VOLUME 70, NUMBER 113 • 2 Sections, 48 Pages

## Beam Just Misses S-Curve Motorist

Metal Object Falls From Bridge; 2d Report In Week

By TODD WESSELL  
Managing Editor

For years, Des Plaines resident Henry Izzo has driven the same route from his place of work to his home near Northwest Highway and Mt. Prospect Road. And just

about every day he passes under the Northwest Highway S-curve bridge at about the same time without a problem.

Last Wednesday, May 9, things turned out different for the father of two boys,

"I worked late that day," Izzo told the Journal in an interview Monday. "Normally I drive in the right hand lane westbound while going home. But for some reason, I decided to switch to the left lane as I was approaching the bridge. Halfway through the lane change, this big piece of steel came down

Enough Is Enough...  
Editorial Page 8A

from above. If I hadn't changed lanes, it would've come through my roof or windshield."

Izzo's brush with disaster was the latest in a series of "near misses" for motorists who drive under the wooden bridge that handles traffic from three rail lines. Last week, the Journal reported in  
(Continued on next page)

## City Close To Allowing Unlimited Number Of Taxi Cab Licenses

Des Plaines residents will soon have a choice of taxi companies.



Des Plaines Mayor Tony Arredia holds metal beam that fell from the Northwest Highway S-curve bridge last Wednesday narrowly missing a Des Pl.

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# Metal Beam Falls From Bridge

(Continued from preceding page)  
a front page story that the windshield of a vehicle driven by a 43-year-old Des Plaines woman was broken by a piece of falling debris from the bridge as a train was passing overhead. Numerous other reports of metal and wooden debris falling from the bridge as well as vandalism from youths tossing items at passing cars have been reported in recent years.

Des Plaines has organized a committee of railroad, city, state and regional leaders to replace the bridge, built in the 1930s, and straighten the S-curve. Funding and actual construction appear to be years away.

Mayor Tony Arredia said Monday that he is in the process of scheduling a meeting with railroad representatives to determine what else can be done to make the bridge safer. In the past, plywood walls and netting have been put in place to try to keep debris from falling onto heavily-traveled

Northwest Highway.

"We're waiting for them to give us a date when they can meet," said Arredia. "I want to get an update from them about what they've done. If something hits a windshield, the driver could lose control of the car. There's not much room there to maneuver."

Izzo explained that he saw the four-ft. chunk of metal fall from the bridge to the right of his vehicle. The beam hit the concrete roadway and bounced into his car damaging the right rear door.

"It hit my car with such force that it scared the heck out of me," said Izzo. "I was fortunate that I happened to get out of the way. A train was not going by at the time. It just fell. It was real close and I'm thankful that I wasn't hurt. If that piece of metal came through the car, it would spear someone. Someone was up there watching over me when I changed lanes."

Izzo said he believes the metal

beam was used to hold recently installed wooden beams. He said that while the damage to his car is slight, he is upset that he will have to pay the \$250 insurance deductible fee.

Izzo urged local leaders to do something before a driver or passenger of a vehicle gets hurt or killed.

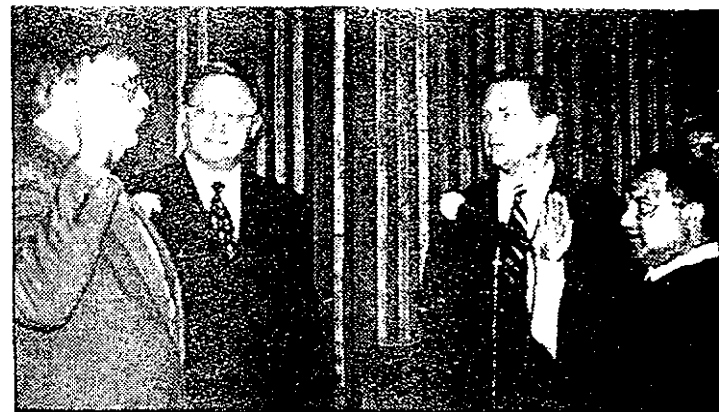
"Someone's going to get hurt and then they'll wonder why they didn't do anything," I said Izzo.

Following the incident, Izzo reported what happened to the Des Plaines police. An officer retrieved the metal beam and it is now in Mayor Arredia's City Hall office.

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The changing of the guard. Newly elected Supervisor Bob Dudycz, left, was sworn into Maine Township office by Judge Sam Amarante on May 6 at Town Hall in front of over 200 supporters. Illinois Atty. Gen. Jim Ryan, second from right, officiated the swearing-in of the new Town Board of Trustees and other elected officials. State Senator Walter Dudycz, second from left, also witnessed his older brother take the oath of office.

## Taxi Cab Changes

(Continued from preceding page)

"We want to open it up to an unlimited amount as long as we get the necessary documents and they adhere to our rules," said Aid. Tom Becker (6th).

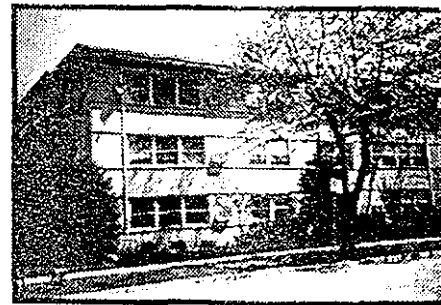
In agreeing to permit an unlimited number of cab companies to operate in Des Plaines and an unlimited number of taxi licenses to

be issued—as long as those companies issued the licenses have the vehicles—aldermen also agreed to establish a one-year probationary period for those companies issued new licenses.

"This let's the cab companies know that we're watching you," said Ald. Dick Sayad (4th).

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## INSIDE TODAY'S JOURNAL:

- City officials begin to review possible Public Safety Bldg. sites...Pg 5

• VOLUME 70, NUMBER 112 • 1 Section, 32 Pages



Joanne Linke with her mother, Rose, 94

## Mother's Day

This Mother's Day, Des Plaines resident Joanne Linke is

# Another S-Curve Auto Damaged

A long-time Des Plaines resident managed to escape injury when an unknown object reportedly fell from the Northwest Highway s-curve bridge Wednesday afternoon.

Dawn Tornes, 43, was heading east into town under the bridge when she says something struck her windshield, resulting in a spiderweb-shaped crack. Tornes said a train was rumbling overhead

when the object—which has not been recovered—hit the passenger side of the windshield, just above the windshield wiper.

"From my peripheral vision it looked like a round object," Tornes said.

Tornes drove directly to the Des Plaines Police Station to file a report.

(Continued on next page)



Dawn Tornes looks over her damaged car windshield.

## Sharp Differences Remain Between

city and it was not authorized by the township board to be a permanent fixture.

Be advised that any personal property that you leave behind will be considered abandoned and will be discarded."

The rock Dudycz was referring to is a memento the township staff presented to Thompson about two years ago as part of a gift signifying the fact that his birthday is on the same day as Abraham Lincoln's. Next to the rock, which is located on the east side of the

and plaque. "It's not disturbing anything. It's in a flower garden. It's a slap at the employees who paid for it. This is sort of his (Dudycz's) first act as supervisor. My first act as supervisor was to try to find a place for the Drop-In Center."

For the last eight years, Thompson served as Maine Township Supervisor having been slated by the local Republican Party to head that successful ticket during two elections. In January, forces led by Dudycz surprised Thompson

and ended Thompson's career as an elected township official, for the time being.

In a related matter, eight-year Township Administrator Pam Andersen resigned from the \$65,000 a year job she has held for the last eight years after Dudycz informed her that he was going to let her go.

"I talked with Pam and I told her she backed the wrong horse," Dudycz told the Journal on Wednesday. "Her management style is different than mine. I told her she has to find a new job. That's the reality of politics. I have to pick my own administration."

Dudycz said he has appointed Chief Deputy Clerk Margie Bialczak as new administrator at a salary of approximately \$48,000 per year.

"He said he would give me a letter of recommendation and that I could take my time" said Andersen. She and Dudycz met for breakfast on Apr. 10. That's where Andersen was told she was going to be replaced. Her last day on the job was this Monday.

As for the missing files and dismantled computer, Andersen said when she and Thompson left

left my office very organized. A reception in honor of Thompson, Andersen and outgoing township trustee Anita Rifkind was held Monday morning at the Town Hall.

As for Dudycz's demand that Thompson remove the rock and plaque from Town Hall property Andersen called it "mean-spirited."

Added Andersen, "I feel I had eight good years as administrator."

## Mother's Day

(Continued from preceding page) dren, 14 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

"She has shown us a helluva a lot of love," Linke explained.

"She has influenced everyone with her family spirit," she added. Rose will be 94-years-old in November and continues to show a zest for life.

"She is very fortunate to have had such a long and productive life," Linke said.

Joanne went on to explain that Rose continues, to this day, to take part in hobbies and social settings.

"She is a wonderful cook of

German specialty dishes, which I still can't compare yet too," Linke said.

Thompson told the Journal yesterday that he doesn't know what Dudycz is talking about concerning the missing files and damaged computer.

"He hasn't asked me for help," said Thompson of Dudycz. "He spent the transition period bad-mouthing me. It's not my job to chase him down. I would have been more than happy to help as would Pam, but he had no interest."

Joanne went on to add that Rose is also a wonderful gardener and enjoys getting out on the town to mingle with residents.

"I take Rose and my aunt out for our weekly trips to the market and to the Silver Stallion for lunch," Linke explained.

"I call them my golden girls," she added.

This Sunday, Joanne and Rose will join the entire family at Linke's daughter's home to celebrate Mother's Day.

## S-Curve Accident

(continued from preceding page)

A spokesperson for the police department said Tomes report of falling debris was the only made to the department Wednesday, but police determined the object prob-

ably fell from the bridge and was not thrown.

Reports of objects falling from the S-curve bridge are nothing new; earlier this year, Des Plaines Mayor Tony Arredia showed the Journal a number of objects he said have fallen from the bridge.

"I've lived in Des Plaines for more than 20 years and you hear about it happening and you wonder when it's going to happen to you," Tomes said.

Tomes' husband Jan, 44, said he wants the city of Des Plaines to take a more aggressive approach to the problem.

"I'd like to see the city put pressure on the railroad to get this thing resolved," he said.

For the last three years, city officials have conducted a series of meetings with railroad and state officials to try to have the aging wooden bridge replaced and the S-curve straightened. An engineering firm hired by the city to design a plan to accomplish that has forwarded suggestions to the city.

A copy of the police report made will be forwarded to the city of Des Plaines to follow-up with the Union Pacific Railroad which has jurisdiction of the bridge and is in charge of repairs.

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Municipal Corporation,

Petitioner,

v.

UNIONPACIFICRAILROAD  
COMPANY, WISCONSIN CENTRAL  
TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION,  
and ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION,

Respondents,

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION  
OF THE CITY OF DES PLAINES FOR  
AN ORDER OF THE ILLINOIS  
COMMERCE COMMISSION TO  
REQUIRE INSTALLATION OF SAFETY  
DEVICES AT A RAILROAD BRIDGE  
OVERPASS IN THE CITY OF DES  
PLAINES, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2001 the CITY OF DES PLAINES filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission, its Petition, a copy of which is attached hereto.

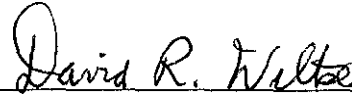


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8471391-5302  
Attorney No. 29877

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I served this Notice and attachments by mailing a copy to each person to whom it is directed at the addresses above-indicated by depositing same in the U.S. Mail at 1420 Miner Street, Des Plaines, Illinois, on May 21, 200 1, with proper postage prepaid.



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David R. Wiltse